

Cambridge Hills Road Scrapbook 1897 to 1990

Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies  
relating to Hills Road in Cambridge  
reported in Cambridge Newspapers  
summarised by

Mike Petty

Most of these stories originally appeared in the Cambridge Daily/Evening/News or the Cambridgeshire Weekly News. They are supplemented by some articles published in the Cambridge Independent Press or Cambridge Chronicle

I have digital and other copies of most of the stories summarised.

The original volumes are housed in the Cambridgeshire Collection at Cambridge Central Library together with have detailed cuttings files on over 750 topics that have been compiled since the 1960s.

The complete 'Cambridgeshire Scrapbook' of which this is a small section is published online at [bit.ly/CambsCollection](http://bit.ly/CambsCollection).

Newspapers sometimes get things wrong. I copy things out incorrectly. Do check. There are a multitude of spelling and layout errors. Please forgive or correct them

News never stops but this file was finished on 31 August 2016.  
I will maintain supplements and corrections – contact me for anything you need

Please make what use of these notes that you may. Kindly remember where they came from

See my website – [www.mikepetty.org.uk](http://www.mikepetty.org.uk) for further notes.

Mike Petty, Stretham

2017

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1897 03 19

St Paul's Church Institute opened, p3

1897 05 27

The foundation stone of the new building of St John's church, Hills Road, Cambridge, was successfully laid on the 4th May last year. The first section was completed and consecrated December 15th, 1896. The result of opening the new building has amply justified the decision to hasten the commencement of the work. The congregations have been most encouraging and the average of the weekly collections doubled

1897 06 08

St John's church new window, p3

1898 04 07 c

At the vestry meeting of St Paul's church, Cambridge the chairman said that every Sunday morning their quiet communion service was greatly disturbed by the Roman Catholic Church bells. When they first started they hoped they would get used to them, but, as they continued to disturb them he took the opportunity of speaking to the Roman Catholic priest, and he said he would consult his congregation. But for a long time he could get no response, but afterwards he replied that the St Paul's bells rang for five minutes before eight o'clock, and disturbed the Roman Catholic service. The speaker had given orders that St Paul's bell should be wrung for half a minute to warn the people, and half a minute when the service was to commence, and expressed a hope that the Roman Catholic priest would see his way to having his rung for a short time only. This he refused to do, and so every Sunday morning half the St Paul's quiet service was disturbed by the ringing of the Roman Catholic bells. Mr Catling also spoke of the noisy bells of the Catholic Church, and the disturbance caused to those living around

1899 11 25

The London Scottish Rifle Volunteers arrived in Cambridge for the purpose of engaging with the University Volunteer Corps in certain field operations. The idea was for the Scots to gain an entrance to Cambridge. The University Volunteers marched in the direction of Shelford, where they expected to meet the attacking force. The opposing forces formed up at Caius College Farm and then proceeded via Hills Road to Cambridge

1900 03 07

The ire of the undergraduate once roused, not even the powerful hand of Alma Mater suffices to entirely quell the wrath that has been kindled. An attacking force of undergraduates gathered many recruits as it made its way along Hills Road and it was at once seen that the objective was the Mayor's residence in Brooklands Avenue. They were dismayed to find the thoroughfare barricaded by a posse of police constables. The mob made a bold rush. The police partially yielded but not more than half of the 'Varsity flank passed through the cordon when the police closed ranks. The trap that had been set proved effective for those who marched triumphantly down the Avenue had not negotiated more than fifty yards when they were encountered by the Proctors mustered in strong force.

1900 04 05

Property sale Hills Road etc, p2

1900 08 17

Hills Road perils, p2

1901 03 13

Presentations were made to the Rev Monsignor Scott, Rector of the Church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs, Cambridge, in recognition of his recent appointment by the Pope. The Bishop of Northampton presided over a large and influential attendance. The honour that had been conferred

was that he was appointed domestic prelate of his Holiness, so certainly it was the action of the Holy Father himself who had deigned to look upon this poor diocese and kindly raised to a high degree the Vicar General. The conferring of the dignity of prelate did not imply he was leaving them. (Applause)

1901 05 21

Sir – As a resident of Bateman Street, Cambridge, permit me to protest against the closing of the end adjoining Hills Road and converting it into a workman's yard. For more than a week we have had to put up with hearing the men at work as early as six in the morning. One recognises that the work of preparing the foundation of Hills Road must be done somewhere but it would not require a genius of road-making to arrange that only one half of the street should be blocked at one time – M.A.

1901 08 21

The Star Brewery renewed its application for a proposed new hotel on the Hills Road, adjacent to Cambridge Cattle Market. There were farmers, dealers in cattle coming from Norwich and Essex who regularly attended the market, coming by train. It was desirable that they should sleep on the spot and take care of the cattle. Mr Grain said there was opposition from Homerton College, a ladies college. What on earth they opposed for he did not know. None of those young ladies, he was sure, would go near a public house

1901 10 30

A new Diocesan Lodge for the Girls' Friendly Society was opened at Hills Road, Cambridge. Several spacious apartments will be used as recreation and classrooms with lectures on nursing, home hygiene, needlework and astronomy and classes for musical drill and singing. There are rooms for girls being trained for domestic service & accommodation for lady boarders and visitors. The old Servants' Training Home, formerly situated in King Street has ceased to exist as a separate institution. It had been established for 80 years and more than 400 girls had passed through; it had also afforded a home to many strange and friendless girls.

1902 02 03

Sir – Allow me to warn cyclists using Hills Road that if the large patches of stones on the road tempt them to save their tyres by riding on the footpath they will probably be taken by constables in plain clothes. I am told they use a convenient post for observation, where they can watch the progress of cyclists along the footpath. Their action can be expected to yield a good crop of cases before the magistrates and fines of five or even ten shillings. Authorities who set constables to pounce on cyclists have devised a mean and contemptible means of employing a set of honourable men. This is against the spirit by which the law is meant to be administered – G.F. Searle

1902 03 25

Sir – with regard to the Clock Tower Permanent Memorial which it is proposed to erect at the Hills Road end of Station Road, Cambridge. I cannot see the need of such a clock there as I am quite sure anyone can see the clock at Hyde Park Corner from Station Road. Would it not be more beneficial if it was placed in the centre of Parker's Piece? It would not only serve the cricketers and footballers but would be of great boon to the working man as he passes two and fro – F. Miller

1902 05 09

Artificial teeth. Set of teeth from £1.0s.0d. Single tooth from 2s.6d. Advice and any information concerning the manufacture and adaptation of artificial teeth to the mouth given free of charge. All cases guaranteed. Consultation and every information free daily from 9 till 7. Mr P. Hawkes, 26, Hills Road, Cambridge – advert.

1902 07 10

It is not a common feat to take down stone by stone, transport for fourteen miles and re-erect, practically without alteration, a solidly-built church capable of accommodating some 250 worshippers. That is what has been done with regard to the old Roman Catholic Church of St Andrew at Cambridge which has been removed to St Ives. The church is one of Pugin's earlier masterpieces

and for 59 years it was in use in Cambridge. Then it was superseded by the magnificent new church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs. It was in danger of falling into a ruinous condition when the idea was conceived of transporting it to St Ives

1902 08 12

All day the great mass of silk which was presently to make a journey to the skies was a source of deep interest. Around Parker's Piece where the balloon was taking its huge meal of 32,000 feet of coal-gas were rings of spectators. Slowly the gas inflated the silk, the aeronauts loosened the ropes and the balloon rose from the grass a graceful pear-like shape. After settling the final details Spencer gave the word for the two passengers to jump aboard, then with a startling rapidity the balloon leaped up and was soon several hundred feet above the earth. It first travelled in the direction of Hills Road but then, caught by a current of wind, sailed over to the Newmarket side.

1903 01 23

Dr Cocks and his chauffeur were proceeding along Hills Road, Cambridge, in a motor car, when the car skidded. The front wheel turned into the gutter and came into contact with the kerbstone with great force. The wheel was completely battered and every spoke was broken. Fortunately no one was hurt and the car was removed to the Cambridge and Newmarket Autocar Company for repairs. No less than seven cyclists also had spills through the greasy state of the road

1903 08 06

Cambridge police are attempting to discover a man who, when he broke into a Hills Road house, wore clothing of such inconsiderable value that he relinquished it without hesitation, and emerged from the premises faultlessly attired. In all probability he had his exit in a blue serge suit, walked in a pair of boots nearly new and freshly cleaned, carried a couple of overcoats despite the month being August, and had his pockets full of cigars.

1903 09 14

The Cambridge & County School for Boys, which during the past four years has been very insufficiently accommodated at St Columba's Hall, reached an important stage in its career. The builders were displaced by the boys at the new school house that has been erected upon Hills Road and henceforth the scholars will participate in the manifold advantages that the most approved educational equipment, utilised amidst ideal surroundings, can supply. Few buildings can possess such a curious means of access. The boys are to make their entrances by means of a slope leading into the basement where they can leave their bicycles, hats and coats before climbing a broad staircase to the ground floor.

1903 11 14

A recital was given at Cambridge to exhibit the capabilities of the Angelus piano player, an instrument for assisting the interpretation of compositions for which much is claimed. Its power has by no means been over-rated. It can be manipulated by anyone, with no knowledge of music and gives a perfect command of the piano. The recital was arranged by Messrs G.C. Bedwell, music sellers of Hills Road, Cambridge

1904 01 22

discussion about site for War Memorial, one suggestion is at junction of Hills Road & Station Road, finally decide to erect it at East end exterior of Gt St Mary's church [1.10]

1904 02 13

The funeral took place of Mr W.R. Brown. He served his time as a grocer on Hills Road but retail grocery had no charm for him; books and book lore engrossed very much of his leisure and he acquired much antiquarian knowledge about local persons, places and things. Not only could he describe what he saw but he could produce sketches from his own pen and pencil. The local press received many contributions from him and he published a series of numbers variously entitled 'Cambridgeshire Cameos', 'Mems and Gems' and 'Leaflets of Local Lore'

1904 06 10

An important property sale was conducted at the Lion Hotel, Cambridge. Several lots were offered including the Wesleyan Chapel at Old Chesterton which, however, was not sold. The brick-built building with a class room at the rear was withdrawn at £165. A plot of building land opposite De Freville Avenue fetched £285; the residence 'Sepha Villa', Lyndewode Road was withdrawn at £640 and a modern family residence known as 'Lucerne' on Hills Road with gardens of a quarter of an acre was withdrawn at £725. Winthingham House, 199 Chesterton Road with gardens and a coach house was withdrawn at £1,850 but a University lodging house at no.9 Malcolm Street, licensed to let three sets (two at £11 and one at £7) sold for £355

1904 06 14

It is not often that a school attracts the attention of the burgling fraternity but the Cambridge and County Boys' school on Hills Road has done so. The intruders obtained entrance by forcing open the door of a bicycle shed and got into the school kitchen where they forced a drawer which contained money. The headmaster's bicycle, which was also in the kitchen, the intruders punctured by sticking a fork into each tyre. They then made their way upstairs to the masters' room and each locker was plundered. In all their haul consisted of £1 16s in coppers, a corduroy tobacco pouch with the initial 'C' worked upon it, a light waterproof overcoat and a cap. Several burnt wax matches and the stump of a cigarette were left behind by the burglars. No arrest has yet been made.

1904 09 15

A poorly-attended council meeting considered an offer from the Cambridge Electric Tramways Syndicate to electrify and extend the present tramway system. The overhead trolley system for running the cars would not to be employed in King's Parade without the consent of the council. But consultants say that the existing lines in Kings Parade should be abandoned & they cannot recommend new lines in the town centre because the narrowness of the streets would generate great opposition from residents. A new line should be laid in Silver Street but this is so narrow that the trams would take their turn with ordinary road traffic and keep to the left. There may be some objection to a track down Queen's Road which has the character of a boulevard but this would not be disturbed by the working of the tramways. The busiest section would be Hills Road where trams would run at about 2½ minute intervals.

1905 10 06

Cheshunt College opened its doors to theological students without any ceremonial. It was founded in 1768 by Selina, the Countess of Huntingdon, and is strictly undenominational. It moved to Cheshunt in 1792 where it was recognised by the University of London and has now transferred to Cambridge. Houses in Cintra Terrace, Hills Road, have been adapted for the 15 students; most will become members of the University and read for degrees. 05 10 06

1905 12 18

St Paul's church memorial window, Elizabeth Jones – 05 12 18c

1906 09 08

Building trade in Cambridge is comparatively slack just now as suburban expansion on any large scale has ceased. Six months ago there was considerable activity in the Newnham district and on the Central Estate where a large number of houses sprang up suddenly. Then there was an extension of New Cherryhinton through the erection of many houses on the Hills Road. It is now planned to open up a building estate by cutting an avenue from Hills Road to the Trumpington Road 06 09 08c

1906 09 08

Many residents have been plagued by the clouds of dust raised by motor cars and other traffic. Dust-destroying measures have usually involved evil-smelling solutions but now Cambridge is to experiment by pouring boiling tar over the surface of Hills Road and sprinkling it with granite chips.

The section chosen where the wood paving ends near Brooklands Avenue, but it carries heavy traffic and is constantly watered so the new surface may peel off. 06 09 08c

1906 09 24

Hills Road Methodist organ, p4

1906 10 10

A Cambridge bus driver appeared in court for dangerous driving in Hills Road. He said he was going 15 mph because he was obliged to pass another bus. It was not illegal as Parliament had fixed the maximum as 20 mph. The road was wide and there were no pedestrians about. The policeman admitted he had little experience of motors but had never seen one go faster. The driver had now been dismissed because of the complaint. 06 10 10

1907 04 03

Mr Nichols' butchers delivery cart was proceeding along Hills Road when the horse shied at a piece of paper blown in the wind and charged full tilt into the window of Mr E. Field, chemist. The glass was shattered into fragments, cameras, bottles containing chemicals and perfumes came hurtling down from shelves upon the maddened animal whose head was pierced by a stout iron bracket. It snapped off and remained embedded in the skull until the horse was liberated and death mercifully assisted. 07 04 03

1908 05 29

Alfred Wright, a driver for Crampton's mineral water manufacturers of Sawston was harnessing two horses in the Crown yard, Cambridge, when one took fright. It dashed into Hills Road and galloped towards the town. As it neared Hyde Park Corner it ran full tilt into a lamp-post and sustained injuries of such a shocking character that death was almost instantaneous. The lamp standard was completely broken off at the base and the gas piping bent right across the path. CWN 08 05 29 p3

1908 08 22

The Ortona Motorbus Company, inaugurated a year ago, now possesses five double-deckers, a char-a-banc and a big 'bus'. They have two services from the railway station, one to De Freville and the other to Huntingdon Road. At the well-equipped garage on Hills Road there is always one car that can be despatched the instant a breakdown is reported and even replacing a broken axle can be carried out by their own mechanics. Now country people who used to disfavour these 'machinations of the evil one' patronise them with perfect confidence. CWN 08 08 22 p5

1909 04 02

A domestic servant of Renfig, Hills Road, was sued for 50 shillings instalments on a Bible. A representative of the Bible Union Society had called at the house and after a great deal of persuasion she had agreed to join. He then produced a special bible with explanatory notes and pictures, saying it was only lent to her. But then they wrote demanding payment. She'd returned it but they had taken her to court. These men roved around the town back doors and got girls to sign; it was a misrepresentation. She was awarded cost. 09 04 02

1909 07 09

Hills Road mystery – baby – 09 07 09

1910 08 26

The interior of Cambridge Roman Catholic Church has been enriched by several works of artistic and antiquarian interest. The decoration of the Chapel of the Sacred Heart has been beautifully carried out by Messrs F.R. Leach & Sons. The soft tones of the colour scheme have replaced the cold monotony of white walls and the roof features a choir of 20 angels with outspread wings of red, gleaming with gold. A pre-Reformation oak statue of the Virgin Mary, which originally belonged to an order of Dominicans, has also been displayed 10 08 26

1910 10 21

A serious outbreak of fire took place on the premises of John Jarvis, horticultural builder of Hills Road, Cambridge and a large carpenter's workshop which backed on to the stables of the Warwick Hotel was burnt to the ground. It had been filled with wood and a fire was always kept burning to boil down glue. The brigade was soon on the steam but the engine had such a short run it did not have a chance to get up steam. When the water did come the flames had abated. A group of those ever-invaluable little mortals, the Boy Scouts, rendered valuable assistance in keeping back the crowd and helping with the hoses 10 10 21

1911 03 03

The Black Bear Press was started by Mr Dixon, a printer and stationer, with premises in Hills Road and machinery had been bought. It had been placed on the Paris Bourse stock exchange but this had proved unsuccessful and had accepted contracts at unremunerative prices. They had now sold the printing plant and machinery as well as "The Gownsman" but not "The Hairdresser" or "The Cambridge Directory" and there were shares in the Maxwell Publishing Company, for whom they did printing, creditors were told. 11 03 03b

1911 03 24

Serious accidents Vinery Row sewage trench, Fen Ditton tumbril cart, motor bus and GER van Hills Road, Soham tree-cutter – 11 03 24

1911 03 31

Fire broke out at the Hills Road branch of Mr B.T. Waits, the well-known tailor and outfitter. It appears that four of his workpeople left the workroom at the back of the shop for a few minutes and on returning found a wooden case standing by the fireplace had caught fire and a number of garments were burning. A dozen overcoats were completely destroyed before the flames were extinguished 11 03 31d

1911 04 21

A serious accident occurred when a horse and trolley belonging to Mr H. Winter, contractor of Hills Road, was engaged in removing the luggage of the members of the 'Silver King', who are performing at the New Theatre, to their respective lodgings. The horse took fright either at a passing car or at one of the hampers on the trolley touching it and bolted. At the corner of Donkey Common the wheels collided with the kerb and the horse was thrown down, breaking a bone in its shoulder. Mr Runciman, veterinary surgeon attended to the animal which had to be carted away in a float. Mr Charles Grant, the property manager of the company cut his head badly. 11 04 21

1912 02 02

A new County Hall is needed. The existing clerk, a solicitor in private practice, works from his own office. The Education and Medical departments are on opposite sides of Sidney Street, the Finance Clerk in is Regent Street, the Architect in Hobson Street and the Surveyor in Hills Road. This is inconvenient and uneconomical and leads to inefficiency. 12 02 02h

1912 05 31

Mr Strangeways was the heart and soul of the Cambridge Research Hospital which was opened on Hills Road. There has been a remarkable progress of science. It is now possible to examine bones and joints as if the flesh was transparent and to take photographs of them. The position of bullets and needles can be ascertained and diseases of internal organs elucidated by the X-rays. 12 05 31a & b

1912 10 04

Brooklands Avenue residents happy to repair road once council makes decision about scheme for including it as part of a thoroughfare from Newnham Croft to Hills Road - 12 10 04b

1912 12 20

Robert Farren, the well-known Cambridge artist, died at Highgate. Farren, who was born in Cambridge about 80 years ago, lived in Cambridge all his life with the exception of a few years' residence at Scarborough until August last when he went to live in Highgate. He was a very clever water colour artist but best known for his work in oils and his etchings. His fen pictures were well-known and his series of etchings of cathedral cities amongst his most famous work. He also produced fine etchings of the Cambridge Greek plays. His 'Degree Day' was published as a photo by Wm Farren when he lived in Rose Crescent. Farren loved to paint Cambridge & Cambridgeshire scenery and there is scarcely a picturesque 'bit' in the town or county that has not been reproduced by him. At one time he had his studios at the top of which are now the University offices but were formerly a Liberal Club. A good many years ago he resided at Mayfield, Hills Road but during the last three years lived at no.1 Station Road. In his younger days he was a very handsome figure, tall and well-built. He was a skilful fencer and attained some note as a geologist. He married Miss Mason, a Cambridge lady and had a family of 14 children, none of whom are now living in Cambridge, his only relatives being his nephew William Farren, the naturalist, of Regent Street and his brother. Two of his daughters have inherited their father's artistic skill in no small degree. The funeral will take place at Old Chesterton churchyard where his wife is buried. – 12 12 20bb. Robert Farren's funeral at Old Chesterton. Three children of his eldest son, the late Ernest Farren live with their mother in Herbert Street 12 12 27b

1913 02 07

Cambridge Advertising and Billposting Company report an extremely successful year even though there'd been no major events, such as a general election. They had hired a very fine new advertising station on Hills Road from the Great Eastern Railway which commanded the Cattle Market and had become very popular with advertisers. They'd also bought a site on Castle Hill commanding Histon and Huntingdon Roads where they'd erected a very substantial brick-built advertising station, one of the best in Cambridge 13 02 07 p5 CIP

1913 06 13

The foundation stone of the new Cheshunt College buildings in Bateman Street was laid by the Lord Chancellor. The college was formed in 1768 by Selina Countess of Huntingdon to prepare men for evangelistic work and its students can enter any church. It moved to Hills Road Cambridge in 1905 and is now attached to the University. Most of its students take the Theological Tripos. A number have risen to eminence as missionaries in the foreign field 13 06 13 p7 CIP

1913 07 04

An important development in local football took place when the Cambridge Town F.C. was elected a member of the Southern Amateur League together with Weybridge. This was the fourth time they had applied and their success is largely due to their excellent performances in the last two seasons. This means they will compete against some of the leading amateur teams in the country on the Hills Road bridge ground with a home match practically every Saturday 13 07 04 p3 CIP

1914 02 14

PC Law said he was on duty in Hills Road when he noticed the pavements outside no.36 were in a filthy condition: there were pools of water and refuse lying about. He's asked the occupant to clean them up, but the man had refused. The bye-law said occupiers should cleanse the footway adjoining their property once a day. But this had taken place at 9.10 am and that was too early; there was no evidence it was not clean at 10 o'clock. The case was dismissed. 14 02 14 p9 CIP

1914 05 08

It is with deep regret we record the death of ex-Alderman George Kett, J.P. It was only in November he resigned his seat after long and valued service, having been Mayor three times. The firm of Rattee & Kett, ecclesiastical builders was founded in 1854 and he became head on the death of his father in 1872. The Catholic Church was erected under his direction but the work of his life was the restoration

of Arundel Castle where 400-500 men were employed at one time. He retired in 1904 and his son, G.R. Kett is now head of the firm 14 05 08f

1914 05 29

The work of Suffrage Societies in the Eastern Federation has grown so much that reorganisation is needed. The Hon Sec for Cambridgeshire is Mrs Heitland, who with Miss Garlick as organiser is arranging meetings in North Cambs villages represented in Parliament by an anti-suffragist, the Hon. Neil Primrose. At Chatteris the Picture Palace was filled with other meetings in Whittlesey & Wisbech. Two ardent Cambridge suffragists, Miss Ida Freud, later lecture at Newnham College and Miss Smith of Hills Road, are much missed. Nine labourers were fined for disturbing a meeting at St Neots by shouting, dancing and singing. 14 05 29c

1914 09 18

A Petroleum inspector said Mr Moss, motor proprietor of Hills Road was licensed for 200 gallons of petrol. There was none in the garage but in the yard there were five barrels, some were leaking and there was a danger of fire. In the stable were tanks containing petrol with more at the Bell Hotel. Mr Moss said there was a tremendous demand from the military and it had to be supplied. He'd risked future business by refusing petrol to his private customers. All the petrol was confiscated and he was fined. 14 09 18

1914 10 23

More Wounded Arrive.—A Great Western Red Cross train arrived at Cambridge on Monday evening with a number of wounded soldiers from the front, including many men of the 6th Division, who were recently at Cambridge. There were 174 patients, including 33 cot cases, and 156 of the men were taken to the 1st Eastern General Hospital in Burrell's Walk, and the remainder to the Research Hospital, Hills Road. 14 10 23

1914 12 25

Christmas at Cambridge promises to be the quietest ever known, with the shadow of war hanging over the land. But everything possible will be done to brighten the lot of the wounded soldiers at the Military Hospital. On Christmas Eve carols will be sung in the recreation room. The distribution of Princess Mary's gifts will take place next morning and a turkey and plum pudding served. The 180 nurses will have their Christmas dinner in the recreation room in the evening. At the Belgian's Rest House on Hills Road presents will be distributed to all men but the public are asked to refrain from treating the soldiers to alcoholic liquors. They are suffering from wounds and even a small quantity of alcohol will retard recovery 14 12 25

1914 12 25

Jane Pegg, wife of an Impington coal merchant, said she saw a man at Histon station wearing a blue overcoat similar to the greatcoats of the Belgian soldiers. He told he was from Hills Road Hospital; he'd been wounded at Liege where his father was killed by his side. Felling sorry, she'd given him a meal and invited him to stay for the weekend. But really he was a butcher from St Ives. The lad said he'd return to his mother and promise to be a good boy. But he was sent to prison with hard labour. 14 12 25

1915 01 22

Bankruptcy Christopher Charles Brown, oil and hardware merchant, Hills Rd – 15 01 22a

1915 11 03

Our Lady & English Martyrs 25th anniversary – reminiscences by Provost Scott 15 11 03

1916 01 12

Horse's Escapade - At about. 12.30 p.m. on Monday, a horse attached to a spring cart belonging to Mr. J. Papworth, of Landbeach which was being driven along Hills Road by a boy got out of control and bolted up the bridge. It first collided with a perambulator containing a child, but no personal

injury was sustained. Continuing on its wild escapade, the horse smashed into a lamppost, which was completely overturned. The animal was shortly afterwards brought to a standstill by several pedestrians. 16 01 12

1916 02 09

Farm railway,—Mr. Fred Hiam, of Raylands, Hills Road, has built a light railway on one of his farms which in these days of shortage of manual and team labour, facilitates the collection and loading of the produce in no small degree. 16 02 09

1916 07 19

Another Heavy List of Casualties. - Many additional casualties - the price which must be paid for all great victories - among Cambs. men at the Front, has come to hand during the past week. Mingled, however, with the expression of deep sympathy with the relatives of those who have fallen and the earnest hope for the recovery of the wounded, is a feeling of great pride in our gallant county lads and their valiant conduct in the Great Push. Fearlessly "and in a storm of shell, rifle bullets and machine gun bullets" to use the words of one of them - the lads of Cambridgeshire leaped out of their trenches when the word was given in the early hours of the morning of July 1. Many fell, but "most of the boys got there" and gloriously did they acquit themselves. Town and county have cause to be proud of the part played by their sons on this memorable July morning. And before then, too, and since. In addition to the local casualties published last week, further casualties include five killed in action (including Capt. the Hon. Roland E. Phillips, Royal Fusiliers, only surviving son of Lord St. Davids), six died of wounds, one missing believed killed, four missing, including Capt. G. W. Deighton, son of Dr. Deighton, of Hills Road, Cambridge and over 40 wounded.

1918 09 04

Killed by Shell.—a letter of no small importance, since it tells of the fate of three Cambridge officers, Lieut.-Col. Edward T Saint, D.S.O., Capt. and Adjutant Alec Johnson and Lieut. H. F. Driver, M.C. has been received in Cambridge. It states these three officers were in a dug-out at Battalion Headquarters about nine o'clock on the morning of August 28 when a shell burst nearby, killing Lieut. Driver and another signalling officer, who was with him, instantly. Capt. Johnson, more fortunate, escaped miraculously with flesh wounds, but Lieut.-Col. Saint was so severely injured that he succumbed on the following day. Lieut-Col. Saint was a son of Mr. William Saint, builder and contractor, and was a motor engineer on his own account. Capt. Johnson is the elder son of Mr. Percy Johnson, of St. Barnabas Road, Cambridge, and Lieut. Driver was the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Driver, 82 Hills Road, Cambridge. 18 09 04

1919 02 06

Magistrate Summoned. At the Cambridge Borough Court, a County magistrate living in Hills Road, Cambridge, was summoned that, as occupier of premises, he did not as soon as conveniently may be after the cessation of a fall of snow, remove or cause to be removed from the footway and pavement all snow on such footway and pavement. He did not appear, but sent a letter to the Bench explaining that he only had one domestic, and could not call on her to clear the snow away. An odd man, who was called, wanted an extravagant sum for removing it. The Mayor said the case was a proper one for the police to bring before the court. It was a considerable comfort to the public if every householder cleared away the snow from his own frontage. He warned the public that cases of this kind would be dealt with more severely in the future, but as this was the first of the kind to come before the Bench this year, they had decided to dismiss it on payment of costs

1919 03 19

To police station on barrow,— "We cannot understand how it is, with the shortage of drink, that you men get into this condition," said the Mayor at the Borough Court when a labourer was charged with being drunk and disorderly. A police constable said that by the way the man was staggering about with a barrow in Hills Road he could see he was drunk. Thinking he might cause an accident, he took him in charge. Defendant became very violent, but with assistance, witness got the handcuffs on, and

putting him on his own barrow, took him to the police station. Defendant was fined 20s., or 14 days' imprisonment.' 19 03 19

1919 04 30

United War Memorial.—There was really very little difference of opinion at a meeting of the Lord Lieutenants Committee, held on Saturday at the Cambridge Guildhall, respecting the form of the proposed united University, Town and County memorial to our fallen should take, two proposals respecting visible memorials meeting with unanimous approval and the adopted scheme for the utility memorial receiving the support of the overwhelming majority of the committee. The proposals which it was decided to put forward for consideration by the public were Visible memorials: (1) That a record of the names of all Cambs and Isle of Ely men who have fallen in the war be kept in Ely Cathedral, (2) That the sub-committee be asked to consider the question of a Monument of Victory in Cambridge or elsewhere. Utility Memorial (3) That Addenbrooke's Hospital be extended and made more complete 19 04 30 CIPof – 19 04 30f

1919 08 20

Cambridge from air shows Hills Road with Catholic Church centre – 19 08 20f

1920 01 28

Fined. Penalties amounting to 30s. were imposed at Cambridge Police Court on Friday on Eric Scot Burns, 'undergraduate' of St Catharine's College. He was proceeded against for driving without an identification plate; and for driving a motor cycle without a licence at the same time and place and for driving a motorcycle without a silencer in Hills Road on January 19th. He admitted each of the offences and was fined 10s in each case 20 01 28

1920 02 04

Drunk. "Guilty, your Worships," said Pte. James Connolly in an unmistakable Irish brogue at Cambridge Police Court on Friday, when charged with being drunk and incapable at Hills Road on the previous evening. P.c. Ward said that Connolly belonged to the King's Liverpools, and was a patient at Cherry Hinton Hospital. He was staggering along the footpath and knocking into people causing them to get off the pavement. The offence occurred at 7.40 a.m. As Connolly was alone, the witness could not ascertain where he got the drink from. — A fine of 5s. was imposed and the prisoner expressed a desire to go to goal in default of payment. The Chief Constable (Mr, R. J. Pearson): The military will pay the fine, your Worships

1920 04 21

New Road. A proposed road in Cambridge, which new will relieve the pressure of traffic in Silver Street, was described at a meeting of the Cambs. County Council on Saturday. The Town Council had written to the County authorities stating that they pro-posed to promote a Bill in the ensuing session of Parliament, and that they would be prepared to insert a clause providing for the construction by the County Council for a by-pass road from the Barton Road to Hills Road, with the necessary bridges. The Roads Committee of the County Council considers that such a road would be a desirable improvement, and the County Surveyor, the County Architect, and the Borough Surveyor are to confer with a view to preparing a plan showing the suggested links for the proposed new road, together with an estimate of the cost. Alderman J. Q. Vinter said that the time had come when there should be proper communications between these districts. Councillor W. L. Rayners observing that the scheme might not be clear to some members of .... It consisted of a road starting at the corner of the Barton Road, next to the Caius Ground, going down over a sort of drift way towards the bathing sheds at the bottom of the Lammas Ground, which the Borough bought a little while ago, then across some private land reaching the river. There was a bridge, and over that bridge the road would join on the Pemberton Estate and link up with Chaucer Road, then reaching the main London road. It would then turn back a little way to the bridge over the Brook, joining up with Brooklands Avenue. It would make a main by-pass road which would avoid the necessity of using Silver Street, a main road with a bridge which was often dangerous for the traffic. The County Council agreed that the Town Council should be asked to insert a clause to the proposed bill 20 04 21a

1920 06 03

Memorial Unveiled. The parochial war memorial in connection with St. John Hills Road, Cambridge was unveiled last (Tuesday) evening by Bishop Price, Archdeacon of Ely. The memorial, which was designed by Mr. A. P. Macalister takes the form of a tablet in the south wall of the chancel. Underneath the representation of a dove hovering over a field of battle, is a polished brass plate bearing the names of 45 men of the parish who fell in the war. The memorial is in Hopton Wood stone in early English style, and was executed by Messrs. Leyton and Leach. 20 06 03 20 06 09b

1920 09 15

Borough War Memorial. Statue of Soldier Recommended. Station Road Corner Site. A meeting was held at the Cambridge Guildhall yesterday (Tuesday) of the Monuments Sub-Committee of the Cambridgeshire Joint War Memorial. The meeting gave its final consideration to the suggested monument, for the Borough of Cambridge. The sculpture and architect were in attendance and explained their scheme, which the Committee agreed to place before the General Committee with the recommendation that it be adopted. The architect for the Record in Ely Cathedral regretted that he had not been able to complete his revised plans but hoped to do so by the end of September. The Committee decided to meet again on October 2nd to consider, this scheme and to interview the architect. 20 09 15 CIPof

1920 09 29

Perse School may transfer to larger site on Hills Road and use existing buildings near Hyde Park Corner for a Polytechnic or Municipal Institute for the borough – proposals

1920 12 08

Our Lady memorial tablet – 20 12 08a, b

1921 02 23

St Paul's church memorial – stained glass window & tablet unveiled – 21 02 23b, 21 03 09a

1921 03 23

King & Harper Ford garage, Hills Road – full-page photo feature – 21 03 23c,d,e

1922 07 04

His Royal Highness the Duke of York unveiled the War memorial which has been erected in Cambridge. The ceremony was attended by thousands of people and was of a deeply impressive nature. It was raining heavily as the Prince mounted the platform for the unveiling ceremony. The band played the opening bar of the hymn "O God, our help in ages past" to the accompaniment of rain drumming on hundreds of umbrellas. A few minutes later the rain ceased and the rest of the ceremony was carried through amid brilliant sunshine. The Prince pulled a rope which released the drapery revealing the bronze figure of an infantryman c22 07 04

1922 07 11

The model of the soldier on the Cambridge War Memorial which, owing to an unavoidable delay, had to be used for the unveiling ceremony last week, has to-day been replaced by the actual bronze, so that the figure now in position is as it will be seen for all time. The bronze was brought from the foundry at Thames Ditton by motor lorry at four o'clock this morning. Mr Kett and ten men were in waiting and so expeditiously was the work carried out that by 8 o'clock the model figure had been taken down and the other set up and fixed in its proper position. A couple of hours later the scaffolding was removed c22 07 11

1922 07 25

The principal new roads proposed as part of the Cambridge town planning scheme include a main road starting from Red Cross, on Hills Road, going approximately north to Newmarket Road at the corner of Fen Ditton-lane, divided into sections. Number 3 runs in a straight line as far as the old

Newmarket railway line and then slightly curves into Mill-Road. There are two branches which both lead towards the station. It will be necessary to form a subway under the railway or bridge the line, unless this line, which at present is only used for storage of railway carriages, is done away with altogether

1922 09 13

The Ministry of Health Inquiry into the proposals for the development of the east side of Cambridge was conducted at the Guildhall. There was practically no opposition. It will be remembered that the scheme provides for the laying out of 21 new roads or streets, including a main road from Hills Road to Newmarket-road. The area includes 502 acres in the rural district of Chesterton

1922 09 21

At a meeting held in the Parish Hall, Union-road, Cambridge it was decided to erect a memorial to the late Mgr Provost Scott, rector of the Church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs. The chairman said the late rector had been nearly forty years in the parish and he was the initiation of the change from the little old church which used to stand in Union-lane to the present large and handsome edifice. He had built up all its traditions and had set up a high standard of services. He mentioned proposed schemes including the erection of a Calvary over the tomb, a monument in the church - a recumbent effigy or a brass, or some definite work further beautifying the church which the late Provost built and loved

1922 12 02

Several people have remarked on a curious difference at night-time in the appearance of the Catholic Church corner in Cambridge. The explanation seems to be that the church clock is now illuminated, after a lapse of some years. Well, it is very nice to see it again, and we hope it may continue

1925 07 01

A very important addition to the garage accommodation of Cambridge is the new depot just opened by the enterprising firm of Messrs King & Harper in Hills Road. It is situated just off the busy centre of the town so that people who are timid can drive up without much trouble and receive attention without being hustled by the police. King & Harper sell so many cars that it is quite impossible for them to give the service at Bridge Street to all the people who wish to come to them. In front of the garage is a petrol filling station from which four different kinds of petrol can be obtained at a moment's notice. Two large wash-downs have been provided which owner-drivers may use for the purpose of washing their cars.

1926 01 30

An unusual sight was seen in Cambridge when a hare at full tilt careered through our crowded streets from the direction of Huntingdon Road. Ignoring the police signal at Northampton Street 'pussy' tore along Bridge Street and through the crowded traffic towards Hills Road. When last seen the hare was still running. Some employers must have had a shock to see how fast their errand boys could travel when there was something to chase!

1926 02 13

I am glad to record that the projecting clock near Downing Street, Cambridge, which for many years pointed to "twenty to three", has now been removed. St Paul's church clock, which was badly damaged by a storm last spring, is in such a useful position between the town and the railway station that we would be glad to see it going again. It hardly seems fair that the repair should fall upon the church, when it exists largely for the passers-by

1927 03 03

The chief engineering feature of regional planning will be a new ring road all around Cambridge about two miles from the centre of the town. One length would be a road running north and south joining the Hills Road with the Newmarket Road, a length of about three miles. Certain roads and bridges were contemplated to obtain an inner ring road around the central portion of the town. Mr

C.H. Tebbitt said that what had been done haphazard in the villages was the joy of the countryside and he wondered what would have happened to these beauty spots if they had been regional planned.

1927 04 29

The stone-laying ceremony in connection with the new hall at Hills Road Wesleyan Church, Cambridge took place. It will be a single-storey building but with a view to enlarging later, if necessary. Mr C. Kerridge and Mr W.A. Gray, members of the church, are the honorary architects and the building is being done by Messrs J.R. Bennett & sons. Too often had they had to work under most depressing and unfavourable conditions. The Young Men's Fraternal had increased from five to nearly 50; if they did not make provision for these young fellows others would step in and reap what they had sown.

1927 05 28

A new private road – Sedley Taylor Road – will be opened shortly leading from the Hills Road via Luard Road to Long Road. It has been constructed under the supervision of Messrs Bidwell & Sons, acting on behalf of Trinity College on whose building estate the road is situated. It opens up a large number of building sites in this popular residential district. The late Mr Sedley Taylor was a distinguished Fellow of Trinity and well known for his foresight in promoting the establishment of school dental clinics in Cambridge, the first in the country

1927 08 11

There was a large attendance at the stone-laying ceremony of the new Parochial Hall for St John's Church, Cambridge. The object is to supply a building for Sunday School work, social and other parochial gatherings. The building would have been of a different type but for the fact that part of the site has been acquired by the Corporation for making a roadway from Blinco Grove to Cavendish Avenue.

1927 11 25

It was a memorable day in the history of St John's Church, Hills Road, Cambridge with the opening of the new Parish Hall and Sunday School. The hall, which is dedicated chiefly to the use of young people, is a fine building of red brick and is situated on the site of the old Mission Church in Blinco Grove. The Women's Union have made themselves responsible for the porch and entrance, raising £130 & money for the electric light has been raised by Miss Gwatken and her Bible Class.

1928 01 06

A gale swept through Cambridge & telephone communication to all places was lost, with the exception of direct traffic to London. Three large windows at the front of Eden Baptist Church, Fitzroy Street, were blown in and the wreckage smashed three front seats in the gallery. The flag staff at Great St Mary's church snapped under the pressure of the high wind. Cyclists who attempted to battle against the elements were almost stationary on their machines. In Hills Road an errand boy was blown from his bike and sustained a cut knee. In the flooded areas the wind whipped the water into whirling maelstroms.

1929 08 17

Big Cambridge fire – sheds and railway trucks destroyed at Hills Road – CDN 17.8.1929

1929 06 16

St John's church nave extension consecrated – CDN 16.6.1929

1930 01 15

From modest beginnings in Fitzroy Street the history of the House of Heffer is one of continuous progress. The Printing Works on Hills Road has been considerable enlarged, last year saw reconstruction of the Petty Cury Bookshop which is now twice its original size, and this year sees the reconstruction of the Sidney Street Stationery and Art Shop. It will be a shop worthy of its central position. The new premises will have five floor, the frontage will be in the Georgian style with

pilasters, fascia and columns of grey polished granite and the upper part will be faced with red Flemish bricks with Weldon stone dressings to the windows. A unique feature will be the Picture Gallery on the third flood with a barrel-shaped ceiling

1930 05 07

A young man fired two pistol shots with deadly effect by in the Lion Hotel Yard, Cambridge. They were fired at a distance of a few yards – the first at a fire arising from a petrol-soaked strip of carpet, the other at a roaring fire in a wooden structure which had been soaked with tar and petrol. At each discharge a cone-shaped column of whitish powder was projected into the base of the fire and instantly extinguished the flames. The weapon was an ‘Antifyre’ Standard model and the man was W. Hardesty of Hills Road, who is the district agent. 30 05 07

1931 04 03

St Paul’s church, Cambridge, having been closed for a month during which extensive restoration work and some constructional changes were effected, reopened for worship amid an atmosphere of thanksgiving and delight. The improvements amounts to nothing less than a transformation and the previously unattractive interior is now pleasing in the extreme. Pews have been modernised with a wide central aisle, new choir stalls and chancel screen erected and a small clergy vestry provided. New arches and windows have greatly improved the lighting of the chancel. 31 04 03h & I

1932 05 31

Mass murder, Hills Road – 32 05 31a, b, 32 06 01 & b

1932 11 11

Perse school building plans – 32 11 11g

1933 02 09

Cambridge has lost an old-established tailor by the death of Mr Byron Thomas Wait of Mill Road. His father was a tailor at St Ives but Byron came to Cambridge 52 years ago and opened the shop in Hills Road. Thirty-five years ago he extended the business to the shop at 28 Mill Road and four years later to 100 Regent Street. Two of his sons are carrying on the business. 33 02 09b

1933 07 18

Two Cambridge bus drivers had their lives saved by the use of new equipment acquired by the Borough Ambulance. D.G. Boyd & R.A. Doe became overcome by exhaust fumes after doing duty on the starting gang at the Hills Road garage and were removed to hospital. Boyd was revived from a state of unconsciousness through the use of the Novox resuscitation apparatus and Doe also benefited by the oxygen mixture. A conductor was also slightly affected by fumes, but quickly recovered. 33 07 18

1933 10 13

A skeleton found at the new Perse School building site near Hyde Park Corner may have been the victim of a highway robbery man years ago. A workman man was digging when his pick went through a skull. The police have been informed but the bones are obviously very old and roots of various plants had entered through the eye-holes and mouth. The site is outside the basement door of the former Gonville House which was built in the 1840s. 33 10 13

1933 11 18

Perse school extension – 33 11 18

1934 11 07

Bus and lorry collide, Hills Road – pic – 34 11 07b

1934 11 16

The new Scott Polar Research Institute was opened by the Chancellor of the University, the Rt Hon Stanley Baldwin. It was founded as a memorial of Capt Robert Falcon Scott to assist polar exploration by collecting information and providing a centre where those contemplating future explorations can profit by the experience of those who have gone before. Later Baldwin opened the new extensions of the Perse School buildings. 34 11 16a, 34 11 17b

1934 12 14

Complaints about the nuisance caused by the sounding of church clocks at night promoted councillors to write to the authorities of Great St Mary's and the Catholic Church to consider silencing them between 11pm and 6 a.m., with the exception of New Year's Eve. Councillor Papworth said it was a trifling complaint from one lady; he had been assured by residents that they were music to their ears. But Councillor Stubbs said the chimes were not very beautiful when people wanted to go to sleep and tended to keep patients at Addenbrooke's Hospital awake. 34 12 14

1935 04 18

New road connecting Mowbray Road with Hills Road – Glebe or Holbrook – photo – 35 04 18

1935 06 22

The well-known dairy farmers J.M. Bull & son of Hills Road have won outright the silver challenge cups for clean milking at the County Show. Their cows are fed entirely on foods that produce the very best vitamin milk which is cooled immediately then bottled and delivered direct to the consumer within a few minutes. Milk produced under such hygienic conditions and from such healthy cows is undoubtedly the best form of food, as well as the cheapest as far as children are concerned. The same scrupulous care is also given to their cream cheese and the quality of their butter and cream is a by-word in Show circles. 35 06 22 & a

1935 08 01

After a very close debate Cambridge councillors voted to continue lighting the streets with gas. Councillor Kenney said the lighting was bad and it was ridiculous to think of giving a ten years' contract to gas. Street after street was almost entirely one-sided as regarded lighting. Beyond Hills Road railway bridge all the lamps were on the left hand side and the place was in shadow. Nothing could take the place of electric lamps suspended over the streets. But in London where there were no long lines of electric wires from remote stations there had been a number of breakdowns. How much more would that apply to Cambridge? 35 08 01

1935 08 12

Houses were threatened when a line of flame swept three-quarters of a mile of land from Trumpington to Hills Road. In Long Road helpers beat desperately at the flames to prevent them spreading along the hedges to the gardens of near-by houses whose residents used garden hoses to dampen them down. Dozens of rabbits raced wildly over the charred ground and a leveret was turned into a living mass of flame. The verge caught alight, clouds of white smoke making it impossible for passing traffic to pass at more than a crawl. Vehicles were diverted via Cherry Hinton and all available police were mobilised to control the traffic and help fight the fire 35 08 12

1935 09 27

Before the war the peat industry was flourishing and enabled families in the fens to obtain a livelihood from a natural product. There is still a demand for it as fuel in private houses and by nurserymen and gardens for horticultural purposes. Peat is obtainable in Cambridge at a cost of twenty-four shillings for 600 pieces (technically called 1,000) delivered. While not suitable for closed stoves and grates it is very pleasant for the hearth fires found in so many houses today. Pieces are 11x4 inches, are clean to handle and take up little room when stacked. It can only be dug in fine weather so orders should be placed as soon as possible with the Rural Community Council, Cambridgeshire House, Hills Road, Cambridge 35 09 27

1936 03 21

Many people have wondered about the object of the black and white poles which have sprung up along St Andrew's Street and Hills Road. The Ministry of Transport have finally given permission to the system of unilateral parking and the posts will be adorned with notices warning motorists not to park on the wrong side of the road on the wrong day. There is also some reason for believing that the new 'one-way' streets will also be brought into operation before very long. 36 03 21a

1936 06 06

Mrs Arthur Walters book 'My Wayside' describes life in Cambridge where Arthur Walters was minister Hills Road Methodist church - 36 06 06b

1936 06 22

The landlord of The Oak in Lensfield Road was awakened by a terrible crash which shook the whole property. He found a Winston Smith van imbedded in the woodwork. It had been crossing the junction with Regent Street and Hills Road at about 4 a.m. when another van ran into it swinging it right round and smashing it backwards into the wooden wall of the pub. At this time of the morning the traffic lights are off and it is against the law to sound a horn or hooter. 36 06 22

1936 07 04

Cambridge street lighting is being brought up to standard. Hills Road and St Andrew's Street are already ablaze. So is Sidney Street. Twenty-three miles of streets will be illuminated by autumn. Side lights properly equipped with seven watt bulbs are all that are now required by motorists. Pedestrians and cyclists are now visible from afar after dark. The lamps are lit automatically by clock devices and soon the familiar figure of the lamp-lighter will disappear from the streets forever 36 07 04

1936 08 22

William Allen, retired railwayman, joined Wesley Methodist Church, Hills Road in 1867 when it worshipped in a temporary building at the rear of the present church. He compiled a book telling how he started at Wesley Church but found them unfriendly 36 08 22e

1936 09 24

The opening and blessing of the new Roman Catholic Schools and Hall at Union Road, Cambridge, presented a picturesque spectacle of stately ceremonial. In the morning Archbishop Goodier preached following a Pontifical High Mass in the Church of Our Lady when the glory of mauve and splendour of gold vestments stood out vividly among the black cassocks and white surplices. The new buildings were opened and blessed in the afternoon whilst the Roswitha Players from London gave the first stage show at the new Houghton Hall in the evening. 36 09 24b 36 09 25a

1936 10 09

King & Harper new garage Hills Road – 36 10 09a

1936 12 30

Cambridge Place was a long, narrow cul-de-sac with a narrow entrance from Hills Road. It used to have an unenviable reputation but had now greatly improved. It was a convenient place for residents engaged in unskilled work who left their houses early and returned late. But the houses were unfit for human habitation. Nearly all the roofs were sunken, the doors perished, the plaster was decayed, the stairs dark and steep. They were all were damp, thirty-three shared a water tap with another house and none had a water closet inside nor any proper place to keep food, an Inquiry heard. 36 12 30b & c, picture 36 12 31

1937 02 27

The Cambridge Light Car Company opened premises in Hills Road about six years ago as Used Car Showrooms. The business rapidly increased and within two years the management found it necessary to take larger garage premises in Norwich Street for car storage and repairs. They were appointed distributors for the now famous High-class Triumph cars that have come rapidly to the fore during the

last four seasons. They are also Morris deals and stock Standard, Austin and other popular makes of car 37 02 27

1937 03 05

The death occurred of Mrs Ann Smith, wife of Gypsy Smith, at their home, Romany Tan in Hinton Avenue. She was associated with Hills Road Methodist Church but led a very quiet life and although she once or twice went on tours abroad, she generally remained at home. The funeral service will be held at the house. The famous preacher is absent in America on an evangelical tour; he is at present in Charlotte, North Carolina. It is not expected that he will be able to return home until April. 37 03 05k

1937 03 27

Have you seen the luxury houses on the Fendon Estate (new road leading from Hills Road to Queen Edith's Way?). Make a visit this Easter. Architect designed houses, built with best materials and labour by a firm which is rapidly gaining a fine reputation. Houses have sold quickly to discerning buyers. Every house is detached and different. Schools and churches nearby. Prices from £975 to £1,500. Advert 37 03 27b

1937 05 11

It came as something of a surprise to most Cambridge people to find buses on the streets again after a strike of 17 days. When the Eastern Counties Omnibus garage doors opened on Hills Road pedestrians and even motorists stopped to see what would happen. Then drivers and conductors appeared in uniform. Managers say the men have returned to work unconditionally and there would be no victimisation; every man would be reinstated except those who had caused wilful damage to buses. 37 05 11

1937 05 29

Bull's diary has cowsheds behind shop in Hills Road – advertisers – 37 05 29a

1937 06 30

The Nazi salute was given as German ex-prisoners of war honoured Cambridge's war dead. Members of the Reichsvereinigung Ehem from Kriegsgefangener marched to the memorial where the ranks of local British Legion standard bearers were joined by the German standard-bearer, carrying the Nazi flag. While standards were dipped, one of the visitors placed a laurel wreath on the memorial as members of the German party gave the Nazi salute. They then left for a civic reception at the Guildhall. 37 06 30 & a & b

1937 08 03

Brilliant summer weather attracted a big crowd to the annual Conservative Fete held at Sir Harold Gray's home on the Gogs. There was a steady stream of buses, cars, cycles and invalid carriages the whole of the length of Hills Road while thousands made the journey on foot. There were numerous games and competitions concluding with dancing and a grand firework display. It was opened by the Home Secretary (Sir Samuel Hoare) who said that there would soon be sufficient gas masks for the whole of the population and production of guns, tanks and warships was coming along. 37 08 03 & a

1937 08 16

Sir – as a small boy in the 1880s my first impressions of Cambridge were so different from today as to be almost incredible. Cambridge, bounded practically by Mill Road railway gates, Paper Mills Bridge, Hills Road Bridge and Queens' Road was a glorified village. It smacked of medieval times with its Spinning House in St Andrew's Street and bread and butter was retailed in yard length by Varsity tradesmen. The fastest vehicles on the road were the pretty tandem horses in dog carts affected by rich undergraduates and hansom cabs and I remember assisting the shepherd of Mr Joseph Sturton's sheep with his flock to and from Parker's Piece where they were grazed – P.J. Wright 37 08 16

1938 02 26

The Fendon Estate, (new road leading from Hills Road to Queen Edith's Way). Architect designed houses built with best materials and labour by a firm which is rapidly gaining a fine reputation. Near golf course. Schools and churches nearby. Houses have sold quickly to discriminating buyers during the short period this Estate has been open. Prices £1,050 to £2,000. Secure your site now to avoid disappointment. House now ready for sale, £1,475. Specifications include large oak hall, dining room, coal and coke stores, larder, central heating with three radiators, electric lighting, power and bell points. – Advertisement 38 02 26a

1938 03 12

Nutt Motor Co, Hills Road – advert – 38 03 12a

1938 03 24

Nutt Motor Co moves from Newnham to Hills Road – 38 03 24

1938 07 16

Territorials off to camp down Hills Rd – 38 07 16 & a

1939 02 08

The Grove Nursing Home was opened in 1920 with three beds. Nine years ago it was moved to Chesterton Road where there were nine beds. The most recent expansion is to 159 Hills Road where a newly completed extension gives accommodation for 20 patients as well as an up-to-date operating theatre with anaesthetising room and all the modern apparatus. The home is, of course, centrally heated 39 02 08b

1939 06 13

An inquest heard that a car had come into contact with a lamp standard in Hills Road. The impact was very severe indeed as the car ran up the post for a distance of eight feet and the force of the impact was sufficient to break the axle of the front wheel, which came off. There must have been considerable speed behind the car, for despite the loss of the two front wheels, it travelled for some distance. The driver was found unconscious ten feet away. He'd previously been drinking with an undergraduate friend in a pub and had a slight collision with a taxicab 39 06 13

1939 10 09

The small new Roman Catholic chapel on the corner of High Street, Old Chesterton is a corrugated iron structure but its lines are good and the interior fittings and decoration are in excellent taste. After the Reformation there was no Catholic church in Cambridge. Then Mass began to be said in the room of a house and in 1841 a small church opened in Union Lane. This was supplanted in 1890 by the fine building in Hills Road. Now there are large congregations at four Masses every Sunday and two other chapels of ease beside the one now opened. 39 10 09

1940 08 03

Complaints over chiming Our Lady clock – 40 08 03

1940 10 04

Killed in Air Fight. Pilot Officer Frederick Harrold, only son of Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Harrold, of 38, Hills Road, Cambridge, is reported killed in action during air fighting on Saturday. Educated at the County School, he was employed at the University Library until a year before war broke out, when he joined the R.A.F. on a short service com-mission. He was a well-known member of the Cambridge Town Rowing Club. 40 10 04

1940 10 18

Awarded D.S.C. Capt E.S. Lewis, Royal Marines, of 98 Glebe Road, Cambridge – the badge of whose corps is the famous Globe and Laurel – has been awarded the D.S.C. Before being called up last October, Capt Lewis was well-known as the Cambridge manager of Messrs E. Pordage & Co.

Ltd, Hills Road and his new honour is of particular interest because during the last war he won the D.S.M. 40 10 18

1940 12 18

F. Gough & son, Hills Road; fire averted – 40 12 18a

1941 01 08

St Paul's church first wedding in 200 years – 41 01 08b

1941 01 16

Miniature fire blitz – incendiaries on Perse School – 41 01 16a, b, c

1941 02 15

Perse school treasures saved after fire destroyed library and classrooms. The shields which hung around the walls, the War Memorial and the portrait of Dr Rouse survived – 41 02 15a

1941 02 25

Ten Die in Raid. Ten people are known to have been killed and a number of others injured when a fairly concentrated attack was made on an East Anglian town (Cambridge) on Monday night. Six of the dead are women and four men. Three of the injured are stated to be in a serious condition. The fatal casualties included an elderly air raid warden, Mrs. Charles Gent and several other fire watchers who were standing in the road outside a hotel. Sapper Day and Mr. Brittain were among the other victims. Hund-reds of incendiary bombs and a considerable number of high explosives were dropped by the raiders, which flew over very low at intervals. Many flares could be seen in the sky around the outlying parts of the town and British fighters were heard overhead. The main brunt of the damage was borne by business and commercial premises in one street, where for some distance along both sides of the road (Hills Road) shops were demolished or damaged. Hardly a pane of glass intact in this district and several houses in side streets nearby suffered broken windows. It was in this area that two of the other fatal casualties, Mr. A. Negus and Mrs. Robertson, occurred. An eyewitness said next morning that during the raid a German plane appeared to fly over the road dropping incendiaries and was followed a few minutes later by another machine, which dropped high explosives. It was these which caused a large number of casualties. In another district a single high explosive bomb landed directly on a house, killing the Misses Barker, who were in the building at the time. Neighbours were also injured, but not seriously. The three others to lose their lives were Miss Thaxter, Mrs. Woodcock and Mr. Ashman. – 41 02 25a, b, c

1941 09 08

Soldier killed and eight injured in army vehicle road crash, Hills Road – 41 09 08

1943 03 12

Burglaries, — Jewellery and other property, valued at several hundred pounds, was stolen in burglaries at several Cambridge houses on Monday night. The intruders appear to have concentrated on houses in the Hills Road district. From three of them property was taken, but in the fourth the burglar was disturbed. 45 03 12

1945 04 06

Fire damages several hundred 20s in tyre store behind Eastern Counties Omnibus Co garage, Hills Road – 45 04 06

1946 09 05

Squatters occupy Nissen huts in grounds of 247 Hills Road, a house formerly occupied by Army Lancers Regiment and the R.E.s which empty for a year; huts empty for two 46 09 05

1949 04 21

A fine of £2 was imposed on a van driver for careless driving at the junction of Hills Road and Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge. P.C. J. Ramsey said he saw a "Keep Left" bollard in the centre of the road, damaged and tipped over to one side. Defendant told him he had hit it. He said that new bread inside the van had steamed up the windows and windscreen.

1949 06 01

Two local G.I. brides arrived in Cambridge recently on a three-months visit. They are Mrs Violet Mitchell, of Buffalo, N.Y. (daughter of Mrs Ives of Harston) & Mrs Irene Mateer of West Coxsackie, N.Y., daughter of Mr & Mrs Lupson, Hills road, Cambridge. One impression gained in the short time they have been here is the high prices of children's' clothes. Another was the shocked reaction of the assistant when they asked for a piece of ham in a local store.

1949 07 25

The Ministry of Transport's refusal to accede to their application for a grant towards the cost of building a ring road from Coldham's Lane to Ditton Walk was attacked at the meeting of the Cambridge town council. Ald. Raynes said they had decided in 1938 to proceed with a ring road on the East side of the town to link up Milton Road, over the river and railway on the north side, and the Hauxton and Hills Road on the south side. It was a tremendous job financially, and would obviously serve the nation and not merely the ratepayers of Cambridge.

1949 10 12

Cambridge town council considered the proposed resiting of the war memorial. A scheme for a traffic roundabout at the Station Road junction means that if it were left in its present position it would be marred by the number of "Keep left" bollards and other traffic signs which would be necessary for the direction of traffic. An alternative position involved the acquisition of certain land fronting the Botanic Garden which would provide a restful haven away from traffic. None of the Servicemen's organisations was in favour of the removal of the War memorial front its present position. 49 10 12

1949 10 24

British Legion veterans of the 1914-18 war strongly opposed proposals to move and resite the Station road war memorial. Two sets of plans are being drawn up by the council. One involves the removal of the memorial into a proposed new entrance to the Botanic Gardens, and the other of placing it in the middle of a road island where it already stood. Capt Taylor said he thought the whole perspective of the memorial would be altered if it were removed. Dr R. Salisbury Wood suggested that floodlighting would add to the attraction of the site. The Cambridge memorial was the most beautiful one he had seen. If it was moved it would be a disgrace, said A.E. Mudd 49 10 24

1949 11 02

Construction has now commenced on a new roundabout at the junction of Hills Road and Station road, Cambridge. Proposals are being discussed for an alternative site for the war memorial. Site one: the memorial to remain in its present position in the eastern corner of the traffic roundabout. The dignity of the memorial might be marred to some extent by traffic signs. Two: memorial to be moved to the centre of the new roundabout. Three: the memorial to be moved to a position in front of the entrance to the Botanic Gardens, nearly at right-angle to Station Road so the statue of the soldier will still face the town centre. This site would provide a restful haven away from traffic and the memorial would not be marred by traffic signs. 49 11 02

1950 06 28

Should the new secondary modern school for the southern part of Cambridge be built in the vicinity of Worts Causeway or on the Ventress Farm estate? Cambridge education committee prefer Worts Causeway as being more central for Trumpington and Cherry Hinton children but the planning committee thought it suited their planning arrangements better for it to be where Queen Edith's Way joined Hills Road. An alternative had been suggested that to preserve an open space the playing fields should be situated on the Ventress Farm estate and only the school on Worts Causeway.

1950 07 09

Another freak summer storm swept across Cambridge leaving in its wake a trail of flooded houses and business premises. Firemen spent nine hours pumping 5,000 gallons of water from the basement of Frederick Day's the Hills Road hairdresser. He said: "It has cost me £100. A permanent waving machine and a dryer which were in the basement were completely ruined. I had to dump them on the tank-trap in Coldham's Lane this morning".

1951 03 03 c

The Ministry of Health has asked Addenbrooke's Hospital to reduce capital estimates and certain projects will have to be postponed. The most important was the new operating theatre, delivery wards and premature baby unit which it was hoped would be built in 1952 at the maternity hospital. But authority had been received to enter into contracts to acquire 43,895 acres of land lying between Hills Road and Long Road for the site of a proposed new hospital.

1951 05 02

Big traffic hold-ups in Hills Road last March – when a large sale of implements and store pigs at the Cattle Market resulted in vehicles at one time taking 50 minutes to get from Hyde Park Corner - has led to proposals for improvements. Immediate steps include the provision of a temporary entrance in Rustat Road.

1951 05 23

Cambridgeshire can now boast one of the finest rural domestic economy kitchens in the country. Until recently the R.D.E. instructress (Miss M. Constantine) was housed in a basement in Hills Road, but this was damp and subject to flooding; consequently the equipment was liable to go rusty. The new kitchen is tucked away in the grounds of the Shire Hall. It has every kind of cooking stove – electricity, gas, calor gas, oil and solid fuel and boasts a demonstration oven with a glass door. A "frig" is to come later.

1951 06 20

Cambridge councillors heard that the cattle market has become one of the most important cattle centres in the country as a result of the great increase in the amount of business transacted since the war. Problems had arisen because of the serious congestion of traffic in Hills Road when large sales are held and the need for better facilities for traders and customers. It was not designed for holding large sales of agricultural machines nor for the provision of parking accommodation for upwards of 1,200 motor vehicles.

1952 01 11

Cambridge Council agreed to include a £75,000 scheme for a sub-way approach to the railway station; thousands of people would benefit from it and it could take the place of another item on the priority list - £150,000 for a multi-deck car park. Coun H.C. Ridgeon aid it would mean a tremendous saving to traffic from Hills Road and Mill Road and prove a great advantage to the town as a whole. Ald Briggs vigorously supported the suggestion to make it a top priority and pointed to the present "nightmare congestion" to press the need.

1952 02 09

Long before the arrival of the ten-coach funeral train bearing the body of King George VI, large crowds had gathered at the main vantage points along the line at Ely to pay their homage. At the station crossing hundreds of people assembled on both sides, whilst lines of traffic extended for some distance. Heads were bared as the train rolled smoothly through the station. Workmen who had given up part of their dinner hour and American servicemen were amongst the crowds. At the little village station of Waterbeach about 100 housewives, farmworkers and children gathered. A crowd of more than 800 people lined the marshalling yards on either side of Mill Road Bridge, Cambridge. The long black funeral coach, with all its windows blacked out passed exactly on time. Queen Elizabeth II

gazed pensively out of a carriage window as the train passed a group of railwaymen standing caps off near Hills Road Bridge.

1952 02 09

There are happy memories of King George VI's undergraduate days at Trinity College, Cambridge in 1919-20 when with his brother he sojourned at "Southacre" in Latham Road. In 1922 he unveiled the war memorial in Hills Road and attended the Royal Show at Trumpington & in 1932 he opened the new wing for children and private patients at Addenbrooke's Hospital. His last visit was last year when he attended the Service of Thanksgiving at King's College.

1952 03 01

Councillor Stewart Todd Bull has been nominated as the next mayor of Cambridge. He is the owner of the well-known firm of dairy farmers, Messrs J.M. Bull & son. When Cambridge was attacked by enemy aircraft in 1941 he was amongst those in Hills Road who were bombed out. He is a man endued with the spirit of public service and after helping to look after the affairs of the city he frequently climbs Castle Hill to keep a watchful eye on the County Council.

1952 08 19

A large congregation packed the church of St John the Evangelist, Hills Road, Cambridge for the dedication of the new organ. It contains 1,210 pipes which stand on the south side of the chancel with the console on the north side. For the sake of economy a certain amount of second-hand pipe work has been used. But this is no detriment as much of the timber which was easily obtainable before the war is of far higher standard than that procurable today when Siberian pine lies securely locked behind the iron curtain.

1953 04 20

The circus has come to town – and it was greeted by thousands of smiling Cambridge faces. Six of Bertram Mills' Burmese elephants marched from the railway station, trunk to tail as the midget clown, Nikki, distributed leaflets about the circus from the basket of his fairy cycle. Elephants Lechney and Company did not lose their way – they've taken the same stroll for the last 18 years. Crowds covered the roundabout at Hills Road. The one at the Four Lamps was unrecognisable, the circus-gazers had swept half-way across the road. Soon afterwards the 'two-ton-tessies' were under canvas, chained to a platform.

1953 07 09

Building operations are in progress to modernise the garages at the Hills Road depot of the Eastern Counties Omnibus Company and give appreciable increase in accommodation. A modern canteen and new offices and cycle racks are to be constructed. With commendable optimism, the Company are demolishing a bomb shelter which was installed during the war. Luckily it was never put to the test, but workmen are finding it a difficult assignment – an indication of the strength and protection it would have afforded. At present only one third of the garage space can be used. Buses which are now without a home are being parked in railway sidings nearby.

1954 05 08

Membership of the Automobile Association has increased by a million since the end of the war and now totals 1,400,000. Nearly 30,000 of these live in the Cambridgeshire district and for their benefit a new area office has been opened at Hills Road Cambridge with a cocktail party. It was first envisaged 20 years ago and will become part of their national radio network by which patrolmen were sent to motorists in distress.

1954 11 09

The Automobile Association has put into service a new radio transmitting station from their Cambridge headquarters in Hills Road which gives continuous communication with 'A.A.' patrols with a radius of 40 miles. There are six radio-controlled motor-cycle combinations together with a Land Rover to provide prompt assistance for motorists whenever a breakdown occurs on the road.

1954 12 06

The Government has partially allowed an appeal by Moss (Cambridge) Ltd over two advertising boards displayed at first floor level on a shop in Hills Road. It says that one of them seriously detracts from the appearance of the building. The premises are at a busy junction in a mixed locality. On the opposite side are two large garages and a parade of shops. To the north the road crosses over the railway and adjoining the bridge are the rail goods yards and the market. There are large advertising hoardings on each side of the bridge and numerous other advertisements on buildings in the vicinity

1954 12 28

Although there were four babies born at the Cambridge Maternity Hospital on Christmas day, not one was given a seasonable name. The first to arrive was Susan Ellis of Beche Road, then Graham Child of Cherry Hinton followed by Peter Michael Jones of Sawston and Jeremy David Pratt of Hills Road, Cambridge.

1956 05 23

Cambridgeshire Agricultural Society was formed in 1863 and held its first show in a field between St Paul's Church and Station Road, Cambridge. Today the County Show requires 70 acres of land with covered accommodation for stock, displays and catering to cope with an attendance of some 20,000 people a day. Apart from 1924 when there was an outbreak of foot and mouth disease it has been held every year except during the wars and when the Royal Show was held in Cambridge in 1894, 1922 and 1951. It is a shop window for agriculture and enables the farmer to keep abreast of modern developments in mechanisation. 56 05 23a

1956 07 10

Naylor's, the hardware dealers and ironmongers have replaced two shops at 38 Hills Road, Cambridge, with one new one with three times as much store room. It was designed by Ellis and Macleod and built by Johnson and Bailey. There are several unusual features including the window glass of the demonstration frontage reaching right down to the pavement where there will be demonstrations of paper hanging and paint scraping. 56 07 10

1957 10 03

The tallest residential block in England may be erected in Hills Road. It would tower 135 feet high and, with a series of smaller blocks, accommodate 161 families. The 15-storey building would be of slender design, using modern materials to create homes for today, not pale imitations of the past. It will provide homes for the middle classes who have been saddled with houses at a cost beyond their means which, on re-sale, show a loss of hundreds of pounds. 57 10 03 a & b

1958 03 29

Perse School plans, Hills Road – 58 03 29b & c

1958 06 03

Addenbrooke's Hospital Governors say it is 'reasonable' for the Eastern Counties Omnibus Company to buy land opposite the proposed new hospital in Hills Road for a bus stop. But they will provide a stop near the main entrance with parking room for three buses and a shelter for passengers. The Bus Company should consider additional services along the Perne Road – Fendon Road route to save passengers from Newmarket and Mill Road from having to travel by way of the city centre. 58 06 03

1958 06 06

Six members of the Order of the Irish Christian Brothers lived together in a Victorian house in Hills Road. There was a retired teacher in charge, a practically bed-ridden man, one who acted as a general factotum, one who did the cooking and two members they were sending to the Technical School and University. The house closed in the vacation. The Valuation Panel decided it was not a hostel but a private house, which reduced their rating assessment. 58 06 06

1958 12 19

Traffic over Hills Road railway bridge, a bottleneck on the principal road into Cambridge, is extremely heavy. Visibility over the summit is severely restricted and many accidents have occurred there. The existing steel plate girder bridge has deteriorated with age and now work will start to provide a new twin two-lane carriageways and footpaths. The new bridge will be designed to allow for widening should additional railway tracks be needed in the future. 58 12 19b

1959 01 13

The widening of Hills Road Railway Bridge may be delayed as negotiations have still to be completed on what proportion of the cost will be borne by the County Council. The East side of the new bridge should run straight from the frontage line of no.129 Hills Road to the entrance of the coal-yard opposite the junction with Brooklands Avenue. There could be a new access from Cherryhinton Road to the Cattle Market and railway sidings. 59 01 13d

1959 02 27

Having completed their flat project at Applecourt on Newton Road, Span Developments have just announced several big redevelopment plans. One is a 15-story high tower block of flats in Hills Road where two Victorian houses have been demolished but the magnificent trees standing in their gardens are to be left undisturbed. Another is a complete new village planned for Histon Road. They are also negotiating a scheme for factory development which will bring more well-paid work to the Cambridge area. 59 02 27, 59 03 01 & 01a

1959 07 28

Work has begun on the new Addenbrooke's Hospital in Hills Road. The first stage will include a ward block of 100 beds and although the final size has not yet been decided it will be between 600 and 800 beds. "Our responsibilities are to the future and we shall be very much to blame if in 20 years' time we find ourselves looking for a bigger hospital", said the Chairman of the Governors' building committee. It will stand in a landscape planned by a woman architect, Mrs J.M. Hayward, in collaboration with the Director of the University Botanic Garden. 59 07 28

1959 08 12

Hills Road bridge reconstruction photo – 59 08 12

1959 09 01

A Ring Road was proposed for Cambridge before the war. It was to run from Trumpington Road and Brooks Road to Coldham's Lane, then on across Milton Road, Huntingdon Road and so to Hills Road. Thousands of pounds were spent to make a dual carriageway from Coldham's Lane to Ditton Walk with a ramp six feet high to start the viaduct across the river. This section was completed and only required the final tarmac surface. Now half of the dual carriageways have been dug up and the ramp bulldozed. It cost many thousands of pounds to make and over £34,500 to destroy. 59 09 01

1960 03 22

Work on the widening of Hills Road bridge is slightly behind schedule but is expected to be open by the end of the year. Soon traffic will be diverted on to the new portion of the bridge to allow engineers to take down and rebuild the rest. Twelve beams of pre-stressed concrete have already been laid. When completed it will provide for a dual carriageway with a eight-foot wide footpath on either side of the bridge 60 03 22 – pic 60 03 24

1960 04 19

The Cambridge Cattle Market on Easter Monday was like Petticoat Lane and indeed many of the numerous stall holders came from just that place. From early morning cars and people streamed over Hills Road Bridge to the market. All the policemen Cambridge could muster were sent to exert some form of control but were fighting an impossible battle. Farmers who generally flock to the market on Monday mornings were greatly outnumbered by whole families enjoying a day out in the warm sunny weather. 60 04 19a

1960 04 28

Costs of building the new Hills Road railway bridge have increased by £20,000 because unusually difficult ground conditions mean it needs deeper and more substantial foundations. But the County Council hopes to construct a bridge over the level crossing on the Cambridge Road at Histon. It will mean the demolition of five houses and affect the gardens of 17 other properties as well as the complete rebuilding of the Histon nursery school. 60 04 28

1960 06 21

It took twenty men twenty hours at the week-end to demolish Cambridge's old Hills Road bridge – twice as long as the contractors had anticipated. Originally it was thought that the removal of 140 tons of steel girders would take a little over eight hours, but the trains passing underneath proved a little more troublesome than expected. The men took advantage of the frequent breaks to wipe the sweat from their brows and light a cigarette. The scene resembled firework night for, as the oxyacetylene guns cut through the girders, a spray of red hot sparks would fall on the ground giving an impression of a 'golden rain' 60 06 21

1960 10 28

Over 100 houses and shops, a Church Institute and a public house in an area near the Roman Catholic Church, Hills Road, may be compulsorily purchased by the City Council. Properties in Coronation Street, King George IV Street, Union Road, Bentinck Street, Princess Street and Queen's Street have reached the end of their useful life and were unfit for human habitation. Slates were off the roof, they had rising damp and woodworm. But shopkeepers protested and one owner said she was very attached to the house and it would be a great hardship to leave. 60 10 28

1960 12 17

Hills Road railway bridge is functioning almost as normal again. After a year's work during which the traffic has had to contend with considerable difficulties, the road is now suitable for two-lane traffic. Resurfacing will not be carried on for another 12 months in order to allow for subsidence and for several more weeks workmen will be patching up. Work on Churchill College continues as does work on 13 three-storey terrace houses and 60 maisonettes at East Road. Most have their roofs on and one block of houses has its windows in. 60 12 17b

1961 01 14

W. Heffer printers and booksellers celebrate 50 years at Hills Road – 61 01 14

1961 05 26

University Examination Syndicate plans for move to Hills Road – 61 05 26b

1961 07 03

The new Perse School building at Hills Road was opened by Princess Alexandra of Kent. The new large assembly hall was filled to capacity, guests overflowing into a large marquee. The old buildings in Gonville Place, dating from 1890, had proved inadequate for a rapidly-growing school and here, on the extensive playing fields was a noble site beyond the noise and traffic of the city. It includes the Mummery miniature theatre, a biology laboratory with its own pool for the growing of specimens and a special room for school prefects. 61 07 03 & a & b

1962 05 02

Highsett, Hills Road, comprises elegant town houses in a sheltered green and pleasant place. Designed by a leading architect, they include a large living room, study, two double bedrooms and well-equipped kitchen. House warming is by underfloor heating, thermostatically controlled. No cold spots, no stoking, no dust. Good insulation keeps running costs down. They are grouped round a central landscaped green maintained through a Residents Society which is also responsible for structural repairs and external decoration. First house ready soon on 99 years lease, £4,975. Span Developments. Advert 62 05 02a

1963 05 21

The firm of E.J. Pigott (Tools) was established in Sidney Street 100 years ago and moved to Sussex Street before the war. It has been handed down from father to son with always some member of the family behind the counter. Its handicraft shop in Hills Road was the first of its kind in East Anglia and they've recently opened an ironmongery department. It has ceased to sell hip and slipper baths but stocks 140 different types of pocket knife 63 05 21a & b

1963 08 07

St Paul's School children survey traffic at junction Bateman Street and Hills Road – 63 08 07

1963 09 05

Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Hills Road pt.1 – 63 09 05, 63 09 12 [DYS cut]

1964 01 30

Experimental traffic island sign being erected at junction Station Road and Hills Road – 64 01 30

1964 03 13

Our Lady church properly cleaned for first time – 64 03 13

1964 04 24

'Cambridge New Architecture' criticises the Addenbrooke's Hospital buildings in Hills Road. No doubt these bleak buildings work efficiently but the bungalowoid growth of the out-patients building cannot mitigate the overall barrack-room atmosphere, it says. Bradwell's Court shopping centre is attractively self-effacing and the Snowcat is one of the few well-designed modern pubs. But other Arbury building is weak with prim brick terraces with utility steel or concrete doorways of modish design. It is a squandering of Cambridge's short-supply of housing land 64 04 24b

1965 03 27

The new corn market building on the Cattle Market site will replace the old Saturday corn market held in the Corn Exchange. Merchants have been advocating a move for 10 years and now it is hoped the market will revive. An encouraging number of people want to take stalls. The cost of desk or box in the new building is £10 a year. People who attend to buy or sell are charged £3 for an annual ticket. Visitors are admitted free. It will also provide a small new hall for the Cherryhinton Road – Hills Road district 65 03 27a

1965 04 29

Local examinations syndicate building in Hills Road opened – 65 04 29a, b

1965 11 12

Old Contemptibles march Hills Road – photo – 65 11 12c

1967 04 13

Alfred Barrett, tailor to take Rose pub; Percy Cornwell retires from grocery shop, Hills Road – 67 04 13

1969 05 01

Tanner and Hall roofers move from Hills Road railway siding to new offices at Harston, formed in 1953 – 69 05 01, 01a

1970 08 01

Jonas Webb statue to move from Corn Exchange – 70 08 01, 70 09 18; to relocate to South Cambs DC HQ, Hills Road – 70 11 05

1970 10 07

Taxis running on propane gas with United Taxis private gas tanks in Hills Road – 70 10 07a

1971 02 10

Changes proposed to inside of Catholic Church – High Altar to be moved – 71 02 10

1971 05 24

Billy Smart's circus procession Hills Road – photo – 71 05 24

1972 09 01

Cambridge folk have become accustomed to large scale demolition in various parts of the city, and soon yet another prominent building will disappear when the premises of the Hills Road Methodist Church are sold and taken down for development. The building is much too large; its seating capacity is 750 and the present membership is less than 200. Secondly the premises are over 100 years old, and while the sanctuary is in good condition, the premises downstairs are in a poor state and hopelessly out of date. As the adjoining premises were being developed it seemed a suitable time to sell.

1973 06 29

Latest casualty in the Hills Road office redevelopment programme is the 100-year-old Methodist Church. Demolition work started yesterday. In autumn last year any people were surprised to learn that an active church in so sound a financial position and such good repair should close its doors. But the trustees had been aware for some time that the building was just too large; it has a seating capacity for 750 and a congregation of less than 200. The congregation transferred to the Wesley Church, Christ's Pieces, or to other Methodist churches closer to their homes. The property went on the market in November 1972.

1973 11 22

It was the Second World War which boosted the trade in used agricultural machinery at Cambridge cattle market. Now, after 30 years on the Hills Road site, it is hoped that the move to the new sales area down Milton Road will give a similar fillip to what is generally regarded as one of Europe's outstanding second-hand implements market. The cattle market developed over the years and continued unchanged until 1966 when the advent of an £8,000 new corn market proved more or less a flop from the start and received negligible support from farmers and auctioneers. There have been frequent prophecies that the cattle market will eventually go the same way. Obstinate though, it refuses to die

1974 04 26

Plans are being discussed for another hospital to serve the Cambridge area in a bid to ease staff and administration problems at the giant new Addenbrooke's in Hills Road, Cambridge. The Department of Health have indicated that they think the ultimate 1,700-bed hospital is too big to be managed satisfactorily and too difficult to staff adequately. Officials have been studying surveys with a view to siting the new hospital near where it could best recruit nursing and ancillary staff. Ideally this would be near a big housing estate such as Arbury

1974 07 02

Police sealed off part of Hills Road, Cambridge, for most of yesterday afternoon after a 1½ ton container of deadly formic acid toppled from an open-backed lorry and began to spill its contents on to the road. The acid is poisonous and corrosive. Cambridge has experienced 21 such incidents in the past two years. Police cars blocked the road and three fire units drenched the rear end of the lorry with water, yet a girl on her way to a nearby post-box splashed through the liquid around the lorry, wearing nothing on her feet but wooden sandals

1975 05 03

Hundreds of Cambridge motorists were late for work today as the second stage of the city's traffic experiment turned into an enormous snarl-up. Police described the situation as chaotic. A police

inspector said "Vast numbers of drivers are completely unaware of the new experimental scheme. At 8.30 this morning there was a solid block of traffic from the Catholic church corner of Hills Road to Perne Road island. Drivers are bewildered and completely at sea". One councillor said that while the first part of the experiment was a semi-hit, the extension was a definite miss.

1975 05 29

With the reorganisation of secondary school education 16-year olds must now look round at all the subject choices and courses at the different Sixth Form Centres. CCAT is far and away the largest A-level centre in the area. Its total of over 500 full-time A-level students considerably exceeds that of the Hills Road and Long Road Sixth Form Colleges together.

1976 12 17

A storm of protest followed the building of a line of office blocks in Hills Road, Cambridge, about three years ago. Public meetings were organised and people claimed the character of the area was being ruined, good housing lost and small shops demolished or forced out of business. Most of the offices replaced large terraced houses of little architectural interest. But the busy main road was not an ideal site for housing and several were no longer private homes. The new buildings are individually of quite a high standard, but they appear completed isolated and out of character with the shopping area. They need something to break up their long facades and link them with the variety and bustle of the shopping area. But the offices have injected a new source of life into the area; already a bank and several eating places have opened up, presumably to catch the lunch time trade from the offices.

1979 01 16

The heart transplant operation at Papworth Hospital came within a month of the decision to close down its cardiac unit. The Regional Health Authority wants to start work on a new unit at Addenbrooke's Hospital because they say Papworth is inconveniently located and uneconomic in its running costs; a substantial range of improvements would be needed if it was to remain in use. The new cardiac unit at Hills Road would have 90 beds with operating theatres and support facilities. Work could begin in 1985

1979 06 07

In 1921 the garage on the corner of Hills Road, Cambridge, broke all records by selling 25 Model 'T' Fords. Now the firm of Gilbert Rice which took over the premises aims for 100 times that turnover. There is a used car facility with space to display 75 cars and they have installed service and repair facilities. In the light of the impending fuel crisis smaller cars will be substituted for thirsty larger ones and there could be changes in the type of fuel used. The company is prepared to adapt and says the car dealer of the future will be running a very different type of business from today

1979 06 16

Residents in Bateman Street, Cambridge fear it might be totally spoilt if a new language centre is built. The School did an excellent job but the destruction of the existing houses would mean a drastic change in the Victorian residential street. They could be refurbished and make pleasant and attractive homes. Not all were against the scheme for a modern language centre for 200 students. One was highly critical of the character of the street as it stood and said the opening of a new nightclub on Hills Road had a far bigger impact. If the scheme were not approved the site might be redeveloped as a hotel

1979 10 24

Eighteen months ago you could buy a reasonable-sized plot of land outside Cambridge for about £5,000; now the figure is about £11,000. In the city a plot in the De Freville Road area has doubled to over £20,000 and an unbuilt site off Hills Road recently went for £23,000. Land is very scarce and plots generally go for auction. These prices reflect inflation and the present generation of people who are building their own houses is likely to be the last. Hereafter it will be an undertaking only for the very rich. The burden of loan interest at around 17 per cent adds to an anxious business and even after tax relief interest charges will be £6 a day.

1979 10 27

The Panos Restaurant in Hills Road, Cambridge, opened three weeks ago and provides an excellent cabaret - Panos Antoniou who is owner, cook and sometimes waiter. When not employed behind the counter, charcoal grilling the juicy, tender steaks for which this restaurant will soon become famous (mark my words), he spreads himself over a chair at a vacant table and puffs a cigar, keeping up relentless badinage with the diners. It is pricey - a bottle of house wine was £2.85 and Scotch steak au poivre vert, £5.95 with coffee at 45p for an inexhaustible potful - but considering the high quality the damage did not seem that unkind.

1979 11 28

A bullock went on the rampage in Cambridge for several hours, terrifying pedestrians. The half-ton animal - destined for the slaughterhouse - nearly brought rush-hour traffic to a grinding halt. Armed police were called in and combed the city looking for it until a panda car driver spotted the animal running along the road in front of him. It charged in and out of the Eastern Counties bus station in Hills Road, knocked a pensioner off his bike and attacked two pedestrians in Station Road. Then with three police cars on its tail it was cornered in a garden at Highsett but escaped by leaping over a panda car and the chase started again. A wall was partly-demolished and three police cars damaged before it was finally herded into the cattle market pen.

1980 01 11

Reports of a UFO which held Harston villagers spellbound have been received from other parts of the world. A researcher who investigated the phenomenon says they appear to be genuine descriptions of an unknown technology. Other reports have been received locally. Desmond January, a Cambridge estate agent, said he watched a line of three white lights which he thought at first were helicopters, but there was no noise and one shot away at right angles up into the sky. Another resident of Hauxton reported something similar that evening while on New Year's Day a lady described seeing a dark cylindrical object pass over her home in Hills Road, Cambridge. The following day two teenagers at Girton told of a light 'burning like magnesium ribbon'

1980 02 16

A major row over whether Papworth Hospital's heart unit should be moved to Cambridge has escalated. Consultants want it to be moved to Hills Road with all its specialist and support facilities but officials from two Area Health Authorities say the site is already overcrowded. There is an upper limit of 950 beds at New Addenbrooke's and already have to fit in a replacement for Mill Road Hospital and a psychiatric unit. They believe Papworth should be transferred to the new Hinchinbrook Hospital 80 02 16

1980 09 02

Cambridge's railway electrification came a step nearer when contractors handed over the shell of the new power signal box near Hills Road Bridge. It will take another 18 months to install the mass of circuitry which will enable a couple of men to control every train, point and signal for miles around. The plan includes floodlit carriage sidings with automatic washing plant for carriages. It is expected to come into operation in May 1982 80 09 02a

1982 04 29

Radio Cambridgeshire, launched today with studios in Hills Road, will broadcast six hours a day. Not long enough, says Hal Bethell, the manager, but all the BBC can afford at present. It will be a 'talk' station, rather than putting out music that aims to provide a new dimension in reflecting the local scene. He has a team of 25, three in Peterborough, and a shifting body of freelances who have been building up the widest range of background knowledge and contacts 82 04 29

1982 05 01

Radio Cambridgeshire goes on air - 82 05 01

1982 05 12

South Cambs councillors may pull down the temporary prefabricated building known as South Cambridgeshire Hall and build a four-storey office block in its place. They would then dispose of Great Eastern House near the railway station and centralise all its staff on the Hills Road site. Whether they will actually be prepared to spend a lot of money on the scheme has yet to be seen. In the past councillors have brought up the idea on numerous occasions but decided against it on cost grounds. 82 05 12a

1982 09 30

A row has blown up over South Cambridgeshire District Council's 'foolhardy' scheme to spend £2.6 million on new offices in Cambridge. Histon Labour Party says there can be no justification for office building while the council skimps on essential public services. Councillor Robin Page has also described the plans as 'the silliest scheme I have ever heard of'. But South Cambs' Chairman says it would increase efficiency by having their staff on one site in Hills Road. 82 09 30

1983 02 12

Plans to move the Cambridge War Memorial from the Hills Road – Station Road junction have been scrapped. Instead of making way for a new system of computer-controlled traffic lights, the memorial will remain as an island. Originally the County Council wanted to relocate it to a small shady spot under the trees in the Botanic Garden, but the City refused to co-operate. 83 02 12a

1983 09 27

The arson attack on the Carioca Club has removed a bright nightspot from the already bleak picture of Cambridge entertainment. It leaves Ronelles, the up-market disco restaurant in the city centre, Route 66 and the Last Resort. Complaints about noise spelt the end of Silks in Hills Road. The city council is thinking of building a special factory-type unit on the old cattle market industrial site off Cherryhinton Road to house an 'alternative venue centre'. 83 09 27 p13

1984 06 01

Falling numbers of pupils have forced the Shrubbery School to close its doors to senior pupils. However juniors up to 11 years old will still be able to attend the private school which charges £250 a term. The Shrubbery opened its doors in Hills Road before moving to Barton Road 37 years ago and has been run by Alfred Wainwright and his wife since 1962. 84 06 01 p9

1984 07 06

Computerised control of traffic in Cambridge by means of traffic lights has been in operation along two major routes since March. Chaos has not ensued and the county council's traffic management scheme claims it has knocked several minutes off journey times in peak periods. 'Scoot' operates in Hills Road and Queen's Road by marshalling traffic into 'platoons' of vehicles and then pilots them through as many sets of lights as possible. 84 07 06

1984 07 25

Cambridge's office space is going fast. Mount Pleasant House on Castle Hill is now fully let as is the former Heffers printing works in Hills Road whose Betjeman House is used by two computer software firms, Acornsoft and Logica. Citibank has taken the first floor of Hunting Gate's Carlyle House while Standard Life's development on the corner of Glisson Road was let prior to the completion of the building. 84 07 25

1984 11 20

Cambridge's Hills Road bus depot is to be moved to the outskirts of the city in a multi-million pound swap deal between Cambus and the Stetchworth-based Unex property group. Cambus will exchange its one-acre site for a much larger section of the former D & H Contractor's site in Cowley Road. In return Unex will get control of the bus depot virtually next door to the former Heffer's printing works site which they successfully redeveloped as Botanic House, headquarters of Cambridge Electronic

Industries, BBC Radio Cambridgeshire and Betjeman House which was subsequently sold for more than £4 million. 84 11 20 p1

1985 04 20

South Cambridgeshire ratepayers can be assured there are no frills or trimmings in the new £2 million council headquarters on Hills Road. The new base is an energy-saving building which will be workmanlike and maintenance-free. There is an air-conditioned council chamber with video facilities that may be rented out for conferences. Bullet-proof glass will increase security. The idea of moving out into a village was rejected as Cambridge was felt to be a central point. But car parking is likely to be a problem with 105 spaces for the 200 staff many of whom will have to park in the streets when councillors are meeting 85 04 20

1985 04 25

A major jobs bonanza is being predicted for Cambridge following a decision to give the green light to a new high-tech development on the outskirts of the city. Up to 750 new jobs may be created at the massive development in Cowley Road where a mixture of high-tech units and warehouses are to be built on the eight-acre site formerly occupied by d & H Contractors. Part of the site will be occupied by Cambus who will move from its Hills Road depot 85 04 25

1985 05 10

Messrs Richard Larkinson Ltd has warehouses and sidings equipped with modern lifting equipment at Station Works, Hills Road to load non-ferrous metal direct on rail wagons. The family originated in Biggleswade dealing in rabbit skins then diversified into household rags using imported labour from the London area. Richard Larkinson started his business in Baldock in 1958, establishing a branch at Cottenham in 1972. Today they purchase and process all grades of scrap and export to Germany in their own company vehicles, returning with wine for their associated company, Fen Vinters Ltd. 85 05 10

1985 08 15

Protest letters against plans for a 'hi-tech-village' near the junction with Hills Road and Brooklands Avenue are flooding into the planning department. Unex Property Group want to build 23 office-research units grouped around a central courtyard with shrubbery and trees together with 169 parking spaces. It means the displacement of E. Pordage, the vegetable wholesalers and the steel staircase company, Crescent of Cambridge. Unex say offices would be better than the existing warehouse and scrapyard. 85 08 15a

1985 10 15

Pigott's, the family ironmongers which has traded in Cambridge for more than a century, is up for sale. It was in 1863 that John Pigott, son of a Landbeach farmer, opened an ironmongers shop in Sidney Street and a chain of shops were set up in Market Hill, Mill Road, Norfolk Street, Bridge Street and Hills Road. The Sussex Street branch, an established feature of the street since the late 1930s, shut down last September. The business, now in Victoria Road, includes two shops, a warehouse, stores and office. 85 10 15a

1985 11 07

Cambridge planners have thrown out three major proposals that would have created 1,500 new jobs for the city. Out went a scheme to build an Asda superstore in the new Cambridge Business Park in Milton Road and out went plans for a big new shopping centre between King's Hedges Road and the northern bypass. Also rejected was a Unex scheme for a giant complex for high-tech research on the site of a disused vegetable warehouse site between Hills Road and Brooklands Avenue. Planners say it left no room for landscaping and minimal room for parking. Appeals will be made against all the decisions. 85 11 07c

1986 04 02

Papworth Hospital, Britain's premier heart transplant centre, is to be replaced by the end of the decade. Health chiefs are considering upgrading the ancient buildings which date back 40 years to TB Isolation days, moving the entire hospital to Hinchingbrooke or rebuilding it on a quite separate site. An earlier suggestion that Papworth could be moved to the Addenbrooke's Hospital site has been put on one side because of the present congestion on the Hills Road site. Its major function is as a heart and chest disease centre, not a heart transplant unit and many of the heart physicians refuse to take part in the transportation programme 86 04 02

1986 12 08

Controversial plans to build a high-tech office block on the site of the old Eastern Counties Bus Station in Hills Road have been given Government approval, despite fierce council opposition. The Stetchworth-based property development company Unex Group can construct a three-storey office block. But alternative proposals for a four-storey block and sheltered housing, scorned by the council as 'a geriatric ghetto', have been dismissed. 86 12 08a

1986 12 16

Hills Road Sixth Form College Ball, which was started by principal Colin Greenhalgh three years ago, was a sell-out. Students donned black ties and fancy gowns and danced until the early hours to the Billy White Band and Tiger Disco. Almost 100 of them had ballroom dancing lessons during school lunchtimes in preparation for the event. The hall was decorated with Christmas holly, balloons and silver paper borrowed from Unigate Dairy with a superb buffet provided by the school meals service 86 12 16

1988 09 14

Mills & Reeve Francis solicitors take over old Cambus depot site, Hills Road 88 09 14 c

1989 11 02

A high proportion of the 5,500 patients on the books of a small practice in Hills Road are elderly but they may be squeezed out by government plans to pay doctors by the number of patients they attract. Young, healthy bodies will be more profitable than older, unhealthy ones which are much more time-consuming, one GP says. Surgeries with older patients would also lose one-off payments covering immunisation, contraception or cervical smears. "It has got very political and it's a shame", she says 89 11 02a

1990 01 25

Today's squatters are usually the young and single who do not qualify to go on council housing waiting lists. But after the war couples with children occupied empty houses in Jesus Lane and Parkside that had been requisitioned by the army. Then one family moved into Nissen huts in the grounds of a house in Hills Road and another into a four-storey property in Portugal Place. From then on more huts or houses were occupied daily. Then pre-fabricated steel houses were erected in Lichfield Road and Trumpington. They were meant to be temporary but some were lived in until the 1970s - 90 01 25c

1990 03 14

Unex group has produced details of its big new development, Intercity House, on the former Pordage distribution site at the corner of Brooklands Avenue and Hills Road. It will offer air-conditioned offices with crèche, restaurant and gymnasium together with 301 car parking spaces. The windows will be high-performance anodised aluminium and the scheme will reflect the style and quality of the Victorian Royal Albert Almshouses across the road - 90 03 14

1990 09 28

Waits outfitters celebrates centenary, opened Cutter and Tailor at 70 Hills Road 1890, moved 49 Hills Road 1936 with other branches - 90 09 28c